



SENATOR
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McManus Minutes



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April 6, 2004

Cable Show Naming Contest!

I need your help to rename my cable show!

“Conversations with State Senator Michelle McManus” airs monthly on a variety of cable stations throughout the 35th district. It features Lansing policy makers, district highlights, and local issues. **I would like to ask you to take an active role in renaming the show.** I am looking for suggestions from everyone and all submissions will be given equal consideration. The person that submits the winning name will receive special recognition on the air, a copy of the first show under the new name, and a special gift.

Please send your submission via email to senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov.

Contest Rules:

All eligible submissions must be received no later than Noon on Friday, April 16, 2004.

Please limit 1 submission per person.

Please include with your submission: full name, address, and phone number.

Budget wrap-up

The Senate concluded action on the first half of the 2005 spending bills for state government and sent them to the House for consideration. The Senate passed the budgets for the DNR and DEQ as well as approving funding for an additional \$6.8 million for K-12 and \$67 million for higher education over the Governor's recommendations. Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension and the Agriculture Experiment Stations were saved from cuts. The Senate also preserved need-based scholarships that go to private-college students. I will continue to keep in mind your concerns and ideas as we move forward in the budget process, to ensure that we pass responsible budgets for the people of Michigan. For more information on the 2005 budget please visit:

<http://www.michigan.gov/budget/>.

Water discharge permits

The Legislature fulfilled a commitment made to the people of Michigan last year by approving legislation that will help protect the state's surface and groundwater resources by requiring water discharge permit holders to pay an annual fee to administer discharge programs. Passage of Senate Bills 252 and 560 mean the Department of Environmental Quality can continue their work on surface water and groundwater discharge without interruption. With this legislation we have taken a positive step towards the responsible care of our environment.

Cable Show

Each month you can watch “Conversation with State Senator Michelle McManus” and hear about issues affecting the 35th District. You can see my show on:

Traverse City TV 2, Friday nights at 8 P.M.

Cadillac Cable TV, 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 7 P.M.

Manistee Cable Access, 3rd week of the month Tuesday-Friday at 8:00 P.M.

Currently airing for April is a discussion with representatives of MESPA (Michigan Education Savings Program) and MET (Michigan Education Trust) programs. Coming up for May will be a discussion with George Corliss of LISTEN America, a non-profit program that aims to build character in children and motivates them to make a difference in the lives of others.

Contact Information

Thank you for your interest in our current state issues. If you would like to receive future legislative updates via e-mail, you can sign up at: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/mcmanus>, you can also call my office toll free at 866-305-2135.